Office of the Superintendent of Schools MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Rockville, Maryland

September 13, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Joshua P. Starr, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Hispanic Heritage Month—September 15 to October 15, 2011

WHEREAS, In 1988, the United States Congress passed a joint resolution proclaiming the period beginning September 15 and ending on October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics or Latinos represent a prominent and increasing population in the United States, and within Montgomery County Public Schools, Hispanics or Latinos comprise 25.3 percent of our student population; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics or Latinos continue to serve with honor and distinction in the United States military and the space program, and lead many nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics or Latinos have enriched our culture through their creative contributions in the fields of sports, science and medicine, the arts, politics, education, business, technology, and economics; and

WHEREAS, In Montgomery County Public Schools, there continues to be a concerted effort to ensure that all students excel and are supported in reaching their academic goals; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County Public Schools' Hispanic or Latino students increased their SAT performance rates with the average SAT score for Hispanic or Latino students increasing from 1,398 in 2009 to 1,452 in 2010; now therefore be it

<u>Resolved</u>, That on behalf of the Board of Education, the superintendent of schools, and the staff members, students, and families of Montgomery County Public Schools, we hereby declare September 15 to October 15, 2011, to be observed as "Hispanic Heritage Month."

JPS:ldd